

## House Republican Press Release

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### **Rep. Urban to Address National Conference on Accountability in Government**



State Rep. Dian Urban, R-43<sup>rd</sup>, Stonington, North Stonington, has been invited as an expert in high-performance government to address *Governing* Magazine's Managing Performance '05 conference for state and local leaders October 5-7 in New York.

Rep. Urban will speak at a session on "Engaging the Legislature: What it Takes," intended to help legislators factor government performance into their legislative decisions.

Rep. Urban said, "This is all about government accountability. Legislators as representatives of the public are encouraged to link government funding to actual accomplishments. This can be difficult because it is a change in the way programs have been funded in the past."

Rep. Urban, who is an economics and political science professor, has been a leading advocate for performance based budgeting in state government. In inviting her as a speaker, *Governing* Magazine identified her as "nationally recognized for leadership in high-performance government."

Throughout her tenure in the General Assembly, Rep. Urban has led the fight for performance based budgeting, which provides for quantifiable outcome measures for each program, service and state grant administered or provided by all state agencies. She believes that accountability and transparency are essential to good government.

"This is another example of the national interest in budgeting for outcomes," said Rep. Urban. "Taxpayers deserve to participate and consent in where their hard-earned dollars are going. This system of budgeting brings accountability and transparency to the process."

Rep. Urban also participated in *Governing* Magazine's October 2004 conference in Texas on the same issue.

"It is an honor to be invited back again to help leaders address this vital topic and improve the effectiveness of government at all levels," said Rep. Urban.

